THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. The designs of Digital electronic rural exchanges have been developed by Indian Telephone Industries (ITT) and Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT).

(b) (i) M/s. ITI have developed a digital electronic exchange for rural applications. Field trials models of 128 port (80 subscriber lines) and 512 port (400 subscriber lines) are working at Udyamperoor (Kerala) and Hebbagudi (Karnataka).

(ii) C-DOT have also developed a digital electronic exchange for rural applications. A field trial model of 128 port (80 subscriber lines) is working at Kittur (Karnataka).

गिरिडीह से रांची तक रेल लाइन

*286. **श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव** क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि दक्षिणी तथा उत्तरी छोटा नागपुर डिवीजन और संथाल परगना डिवीजन में उचित परिवहन सुविधा उपलब्ध करने के लिये गिरिडीह-से रांची तक, बरकाना कोडरमा तथा हजारीबाग, 272 किलोमीटर लम्बी रेलवे लाइन के निर्माणार्थ सर्वेक्षण कार्य पूरा कर लिया गया है और इस लाइन के निर्माण पर 260 करोड़ रुपये की लागत आने का अनुमान है ; और

(ख) क्या सरकार इस पिछड़े तथा जनजातीय क्षेत्र के विकास के लिये उक्त परियोजना को सातवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना में शामिल करने तथा इस लाइन पर उक्त अवधि में निर्माण कार्य शुरू करने का विचार रखती है ?

रेल मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री माधवराव सिंधिया) : (क) इस रेल लाइन (294 कि० मी०) के लिये सर्वेक्षण पूरा हो गया है और इस पर 262.47 करोड़ रुपये की लागत आने का अनुमान लगाया गया है ।

(ख) जी, नहीं ।

Setting up of new sports schools

♦287. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state: '

(a) whether Government are contemplating to open new sports schools in the country to develop the available sports talents;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether the tribal areas, which abound in natural talent, are to ba given due priority in the matter of locating these sports schools; and

(d) if so, whether any such school is likely to be located in the State of Madhya Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRi P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) to (d) Although there is no scheme under the consideration of the Government of India for the setting up of sports schools as such in the country, some States have already set up sports schools and are supporting them. The Central Government has, however, in operation certain other schemes for spotting and nurturing of talent among students in the field of sports which are as under: —

(i) The scheme of Sports Authority of India of adoption of schools for sports training. One school under the scheme has been adopted in Madhya Pradesh at Indore and two more schools at Jabalpur and Gwalior have been selected to be adopted in 1987-88. Besides a school in Gumla, Bihar, falling in a tribal area has been adopted, while schools in Shillong, Aizwal, Ranchi and Car Nicobar are to be adopted in 1987-88, together with other schools.

Cii) The National Coaching Scheme implemented by the Netaji Subhas National Institute of Sports which operates 31 regional coaching centres in different States under the scheme. One such centre out